

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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BEAGLE CHANNEL NEGOTIATIONS RESUME IN ROME

PY251607 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 24 Jun 81 p 5

[Excerpt] After 2 months of virtual suspension, the negotiations on the southern border conflict resumed yesterday. According to a cable from the Italian agency ANSA, Cardinal Antonio Samore held talks for more than 1 hour with the Chilean delegation headed by Enrique Bernstein.

"We talked about it being our first contact after an absence of almost 1 month from Rome, but we also held a real work session," Bernstein stated.

He confirmed that they talked about the pope's mediation and that "tomorrow (today) or the day after tomorrow, the Argentines must also go to the Vatican for a conversation."

FOREIGN MINISTRY EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR MEDIATION

PY252330 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2305 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Jun (TELAM)--The main concern of the Argentine Foreign Ministry is to uphold the image and the interests of civilian and military institutions of the Argentine nation and to support the mediation of Pope John Paul II, since it is the proper path to overcome a problem of utmost importance for the nation and which, because of its nature, demands prudence and secrecy from all the parties involved.

This statement was issued today by a Foreign Ministry spokesman regarding the publication of a statement that was reportedly issued during an alleged talk with an official of the Argentine delegation to the mediation in Rome.

The spokesman added that the Argentine Foreign Ministry believes any other statement in this regard to be irrelevant particularly because it is absolutely necessary to avoid, from our part, any direct or indirect actions that may insult the holy father.

GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN DENIES CABINET RESIGNATIONS

PY251718 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1622 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 25 Jun (TELAM)--A reliable government spokesman today categorically refuted rumors about alleged resignations of members of the national cabinet. The spokesman said that these rumors are part of the campaign unleashed to destabilize the process of national reorganization.

He added that President Roberto Eduardo Viola is maintaining extremely fluid communications with the members of the military junta and that they are working together as a team.

He stressed that the president of the nation has absolute confidence in every one of the ministers and that this confidence was reaffirmed during the cabinet meeting last night.

FINANCE MINISTER ON CURRENT FINANCIAL TOPICS

PY251701 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1400 GMT 19 Jun 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Jun (NA)--Finance Minister Lorenzo Sigaut deplored today the "absurdities which have circulated in financial and economic circles in Buenos Aires lately, where "there are people who are denying us a vote of confidence."

He warned that those who are betting on the dollar "will lose." Showing concern over the continuous wave of rumors "which no longer have any economic basis," the minister firmly stated that the current interest rates "are affecting the recovery we are expecting to have."

He also rejected the idea that the readjustment of the exchange rate for July will range from 6 to 8 percent. Sigaut made this remark during the "New Day" program aired by Radio Mitre.

In the first place, the minister asked for "everybody to rally behind the appeal which the nation's president made in the message he addressed to the nation today."

Sigaut referred to what happened in the financial market over the last 3 days as "absurdities," such as saying that "we have lost from \$200 to \$300 million in a single day and that prices will increase by more than 20 percent this month." Although admitting that "we have lost foreign exchange" over a period of time, the amount has "by no means approached what has been said that we lost in a single day."

He clearly warned that "those who are betting" on the dollar "will really lose, because we have eliminated the overvaluation."

The minister also revealed that "for the first time in a long while we have had a trade surplus in May," and that the World Bank has granted two lines of credit which "indicate the confidence those circles have in Argentina's future."

He explained, however, that "they are aware, as we are, of the temporary difficulties we are experiencing in the external sector; but still they gave us a vote of confidence." On the other hand, he deplored the fact that "there are people in the 'city' of Buenos Aires--on San Martin and 25 Mayo Streets--who are not giving that vote of confidence."

Regarding this particular point, he said: "As far as that lack of confidence refers to me personally, I don't mind; but they are denying their vote of confidence to the country." He reiterated that "the philosophical approach" of the economic program will not be modified, because "that philosophy has been adopted by the process, not by any individual." However, he mentioned that regarding "some economic variables, there have been fundamental and total modifications in implementation compared with the Martinez de Hoz administration."

Talking about the interest rates, Sigaut admitted that "they are affecting the recovery we have been expecting with this program, the economic program; but there is a priority area today, namely, the external sector."

As for the external sector, he anticipated that there will be "a total loosening up over the short term," but that the sector is now experiencing "circumstantial difficulties" which are "blown up by rumors."

Sigaut then said: "I would say that as long as we do not correct the external sector--something that we inexorably have to do--the problem with interest rates, to the chagrin of everybody, will continue to affect us."

Regarding the resignation of the Central Bank authorities, he stated: "I did not ask them. They submitted their resignations and, although the timing was difficult and inopportune, I accepted."

Sigaut demurred to comment on the reasons for the resignations, emphatically noting that "I faced up to the situation by accepting the resignations."

Asked if he would be willing to call on economists with different political thinking to find a way out of the present difficulties, Sigaut replied that "the government and I are willing to listen to opinions. If I need advice, of course I will ask for it. There should be no doubt that I will do anything I deem to be good for the country."

Regarding the foreign exchange adjustment for July, Minister Sigaut said: "I would say that it will not be significantly different from the June readjustment after the devaluation." In the way of information for those who want to speculate and will certainly lose, Sigaut added that the foreign exchange readjustment for July will be on the order of 6 to 8 percent, much closer to 6.

As for the behavior of prices in June, he noted that "it is anticipated that the rate of inflation will decline substantially next month." He admitted that there is "an advance" in wholesale prices in June and that it is "benefitting the productive sectors which we wanted to encourage through exports."

In reference to the Consumers Price Index [CPI], the finance minister said that "it will stay low," adding that "there is no merit to this, because it is somehow the result of low demand levels." However, he added, "this is the reality confronting us, but the June CPI is far, very far from 14 or 15 percent" as rumors have it. He emphatically announced that "it will be below 10 percent," adding that, "after the large corrections we had to face, I believe that there is no reason for uncertainty on this matter. There will be no jumps in the CPI."

Nevertheless, he warned "if there should be a jump because the exchange rate should prove to continue overvalued, well--I believe we should speak in a different tone."

He concluded by saying that "those who are betting on the dollar in these circumstances will be disappointed."

'TERRORIST' GROUP CLAIMS LA PRENSA ATTACK

PY251800 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 25 Jun 81 p 1

[Text] (NA)--A formerly unknown terrorist organization calling itself the "New Argentina Command" has claimed responsibility for a brutal mugging attack on renowned LA PRENSA newspaper columnist Manfred Schonfeld.

A man claiming to represent the terrorist band telephoned several of the city's news organizations, including the news agency NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS and the mass circulation daily CLARIN, to say that "we are the ones who gave the journalist Schonfeld a reprimand, like we told the editor of LA PRENSA last night."

Schonfeld, a regular editorial columnist with LA PRENSA, was reportedly resting at his home yesterday after he was attacked last Monday evening, as he arrived home from work, by a man wielding a heavy metal weapon.

Yesterday's LA PRENSA carried numerous messages of solidarity with the paper and Schonfeld--both because of recent withdrawal of government advertising from the newspaper due to its criticism of the national reorganization process and because of the terrorist attack on the writer--as well as messages from the federal police and the government repudiating the attack on the columnist.

BRIEFS

VENEZUELAN MINISTER VISITING--Buenos Aires, 24 Jun (TELAM)-- Argentine President Roberto Eduardo Viola yesterday met with visiting Venezuelan Minister of State for Intelligence Development Luis Alberto Machado, who conveyed to President Viola greetings from the Venezuelan president and briefed him on programs which are being carried out in Venezuela aimed at the development of human intelligence. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1013 GMT 24 Jun 81 PY]

FRENCH PHYSICISTS CLAIM URANIUM SHIPPED TO IRAQ

PY251921 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 24 Jun 81 p 1

[By Reali Junior]

[Text] Paris--Two French physicists of the "Scientists' Group for Information on Nuclear Energy"--the Raymond and Monique Sene couple--were aware of the shipment of reactor-ready uranium to Iraq by Brazil a few months before the shipment was publicly denounced. In an exclusive interview with O ESTADO and JORNAL DA TARDE in College de France, the scientists said that they were informed about it by other scientists and technicians, some of whom work at the French Nuclear Energy Commission. The two scientists confirmed that the Brazilian uranium could have been irradiated in the Iraqi Osirak reactor (which was destroyed by Israel) to obtain plutonium 239. Raymond Sene was one of the authors of the report entitled "Osirak and the Proliferation of Atomic Weapons," which was recently submitted to President Francois Mitterrand. Monique Sene is head of research at the French Atomic Energy Commission, holds a decree in nuclear physics from the Paris VI University (Jussieu) and is head of the "Scientists' Group for Information on Nuclear Energy." In this interview they analyzed the implications of the shipment of uranium to Iraq.

II ARMY CORPS COMMANDER TAVARES DE SOUZA DIES

PY221417 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 100 GMT 22 Jun 81

[Excerpt] Gen Milton Tavares de Souza, commander of the II Army Corps headquartered in Sao Paulo, died last night in Sao Paulo from a heart attack. Gen Henrique Beckman Filho, commander of the 2d Army Division, is now the acting commander of the II Army Corps.

LULA DISCUSSES WORKERS' PARTY ORIENTATION, IDEAS

PY252126 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 21 Jun 81 p 4

[Interview with Workers' Party President Luis Inacio da Silva--Lula--by correspondent Rolan M. Sierra--place and date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Does the Workers' Party [PT] espouse socialism or is it to the left or is it leftist?

[Answer] I believe that the PT is definitely a leftist party. There is no reason for not saying that the PT is a leftist party. I believe that the working class today, practically the entire class, has a leftist position, taking the extreme right, not the regime itself, as a point of reference. Furthermore we were very careful not to use in the party's program the cliches which were always used in this country, particularly by the leftist sectors in Brazil. We were careful not to include all the questions of socialism, not to define an essentially socialist party program. We did so out of our belief that society must discuss what is best for it. I have no doubt that any group of workers who may get together to define a type of society, to write a party program, will arrive at the conclusion that they have a socialist proposal at heart. We put together a program whenever we have another congress and to the extent that the actively participating working class effectively defines the party programmatic lines, improving on the existing ones. I do not hesitate to tell you that in addition to being a leftist party, the PT definitely has a socialist objective. It only remains to discuss what type of socialism is more appropriate, and by appropriate I mean a socialism hatched in the minds of the majority of Brazilian society.

[Question] Doesn't that proposition create distrust or wariness in sectors of public opinion?

[Answer] No. I think that the proposition can only cause fear in those who have a good standard of living and who believe that the politically organized working class will take it away. In fact the PT does not propose equality in poverty, but equality in affluence. We do not want people who are being well paid and enjoying privileges today to lose anything. We want privileges for all members of society. This is why I believe that the PT political line should be made known to all levels of society, although the press is now boycotting us.

[Question] Since it was first organized, did the PT contact the Communist Party [CP] or the other way around?

[Answer] No. I had colleagues belonging to the CP who appropriated for themselves the right to say that the CP was the working class' party. I believe they have the right to say that, but I would like to recall a remark that a colleague of mine used to make to communists: Give me one book, just one, in which Marx said that the Communist Party is the party of the working class and I will leave the PT to join the CP. I think that colleagues in the CP have not yet understood that the working class should be allowed to participate first, and only then one will see who is who in the party. I have recently talked with some colleagues who are leaders in the CP, including Giocondo Dias. We discussed everything, the labor movement, political parties, but we never got down to discuss whether the PT was better than the CP or vice versa. I only told Dias that if they wanted to enter in a fray for legalizing the CP, I would be the first one to climb on a stand to defend that legalization, thus doing exactly the opposite of what the CP did by trying many times to stymie the growth of the PT.

PRESIDENT JOAO FIGUEIREDO DEPARTS FOR LIMA

PY241531 Paris AFP in Spanish 1511 GMT 24 Jun 81

[Text] Brasilia, 24 Jun (AFP)--Brazilian President Joao Figueiredo today left for Lima, thus beginning an official visit to Peru which will last until Saturday.

Figueiredo is scheduled to arrive in Lima at 1500 local time and will meet the Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry today.

BRIEFS

EXPORT FIGURES--During the first 4 months of 1981, Brazilian exports reached 38,292,500 tons worth \$7,059,942,000. These figures are higher than those reported for the same period in 1980, that is, 30,551,342 tons worth \$5,604,137,000. According to official estimates, Brazilian exports will reach \$26 billion in 1981. Planning Minister Minister Antonion Delfim Neto and Finance Minister Ernane Galveas believe that the Brazilian trade balance could have a slight surplus this year contrary to what happened in 1980, when a \$2,829,062,000 deficit was reported. [Paris AFP in Spanish 0115 GMT 16 Jun 81 PY]

ARMY RELIEVED OF ROLE IN ANTIDRUG STRUGGLE

PA241813 Paris AFP in Spanish 1446 GMT 23 Jun 81

[Excerpts] Bogota, 23 Jun (AFP)--The Colombian Army has been relieved of the struggle against narcotics traffic and the job has been assigned solely to the uniformed and secret police, it was learned here today. It was reported that the army's action in this struggle was very effective, especially on the Colombian Atlantic coast, but the garrisons were then neglected.

Some jurists had pointed out that the army's mission is to protect Colombia's sovereignty and charged that it was invading areas which were the responsibility of other groups, such as the police. After these comments the government has ordered the soldiers to return to their barracks and turned the struggle against drug traffic over to the uniformed and secret police.

At the same time it was reported that the army will be used in the antiguerrilla struggle in Colombian cities and in the countryside.

GOVERNMENT TO PURCHASE OIL FROM MEXICO, IRAN

PA242157 Paris AFP in Spanish 1549 GMT 24 Jun 81

[Text] Bogota, 23 Jun (AFP)--Colombia has launched an operation to purchase oil in Mexico and the Middle East because Venezuela is not complying with the daily supply of 25,000 barrels of crude.

During their trip, Carlos Rodado, the mines and energy minister; and Jose Fernando Isaza, the president of the Colombian Petroleum Enterprise, [Ecopetrol] have begun negotiations to purchase close to 45,000 barrels of oil per day.

Mexico will supply Colombia with 10,000 barrels per day until the end of the year, with the possibility of increasing the amount to 25,000 barrels in 1982.

The minister explained that because of these negotiations, the country will have no problem with the supply of crude, especially due to the decision of the Mexican Government to sell a large amount of oil.

Concerning the negotiations with Iran for 15,000 barrels per day, the minister pointed out that the operation will entail trading the Iranian oil which would be delivered in the Antilles.

Rodado said: "We would take the oil from Ecuador and Japan to reduce the transportation costs." Colombia is currently producing 123,000 barrels of oil per day and its needs are approximately 20,000 barrels per day.

5 PERCENT OIL PRODUCTION REDUCTION ANNOUNCED

PA090050 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2256 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] Quito, 8 Jun (LATIN-REUTER)--Ecuador announced this afternoon it is reducing its daily rate of petroleum production by 5 percent.

A communique issued by the Natural Resources Ministry announced that the previous normal daily production of 228,000 barrels is now set at 217,000.

The communique added that the measure is in line with the decisions adopted at the last OPEC meeting, of which Ecuador is a member, and seeks to protect the price of Ecuadorean crude oil, officially established at \$33.50 per barrel.

CEPE ANNOUNCES REDUCTION OF OIL EXPORT PRICE

PA260248 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0219 GMT 26 Jun 81

[Text] Quito, 25 Jun (LATIN-REUTER)--The Ecuadorean Government tonight announced a second reduction in the price of the oil sold by the Ecuadorean State Petroleum Corporation (CEPE).

A month ago, the price had been fixed at \$33 per barrel and tonight, through a ministry agreement, it was adjusted at \$32 "to adapt the sale of the Ecuadorean crude to the international market situation." The official note added that the measure seeks to "avoid paralyzing exports."

Ecuador is a member of OPEC, where it is categorized as marginal crude producer, with a daily average production of 225,000 barrels. Ecuador exports amount to approximately 100,000 barrels of oil daily.

BOMB EXPLODES AT HOUSE OF SUPERIOR COURT OFFICIAL

PA202338 Quito Voz de Los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 20 Jun 81

[Text] According to the police, an incendiary bomb exploded in Guayaquil last night at the house of Guillermo Pena Roldos, president of the Superior Court there. The bomb caused extensive property damage to the house but there were no personal injuries, the report adds.

Pena Roldos is also dean of the School of Law and Social Sciences at the university. The police are investigating the case, and so far nobody has claimed responsibility for this attack.

PRESIDENT HURTADO TO VISIT BRAZIL IN OCTOBER

PY192202 Paris AFP in Spanish 1907 GMT 19 Jun 81

[Text] Brasilia, 19 Jun (AFP)--It was reported here today that Ecuadorean President Oswaldo Hurtado Larrea will make an official visit to Brazil on 13 October. The report was released by a Brazilian Foreign Ministry spokesman who added that President Hurtado Larrea will visit Brazil at an invitation of his Brazilian counterpart Gen Joao Baptista Figueiredo.

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT LEADER RESCK ARRESTED

PY251401 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 25 Jun 81 p 15

[Text] Luis Alfonso Resck, president of the Christian Democratic Party (PDC), was arrested on the street yesterday after attending a meeting of the coordinating board of the National Accord (AN) and has reportedly started a hunger strike to gain his release. The reasons for his arrest are not known, but in opposition circles it is believed that his arrest is related to a PDC communique of solidarity with the Venezuelan Congress.

Resck was arrested after 1200 in front of his house on 1162 Lugano Street (in Carlos Antonio Lopez neighborhood) and is reportedly held incommunicado in the investigations department of the police, according to his relatives.

Domingo Laino, president of the AN coordinating board, reported that after the meeting Resck went to his house. "When he arrived in front of his house, a private white Ford Corcel automobile with four people in civilian clothes inside stopped behind Resck's car," Laino said. Laino then reported that "after Resck got out of his car," the four persons in civilian clothes forced him to get inside the white Corcel, preventing him from entering his house. When his wife, Perlita de Resck, demanded from the persons in civilian clothes a written official warrant of arrest, one of the alleged policeman told her in a grave manner: "There is no written warrant and do not try to create an incident on the street."

Laino indicated that when Resck went inside the police car he shouted to his wife: "Do not send me any food because I am now on hunger strike to get my release." Laino also said that AN members visited the Resck family to express to his wife and children the solidarity of the party members of this political movement.

Laino, as acting president of the AN coordinating board, made up of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party (PRLA), the Febrerista Revolutionary Party (PRF), the PDC and the Colorado Popular Movement (MOPOCO), stated his "most energetic protest at the arbitrary arrest of patriot and fighting comrade Luis Alfonso Resck." The AN coordinating board held an emergency meeting last night to study a communique to be released to the public today. It was also reported that Resck's arrest will be reported to the OAS Human Rights Commission and other international organizations.

Resck's Arrest Confirmed

PY251404 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 25 Jun 81 p 8

[Excerpts] Interior Minister Sabino Augusto Montanaro confirmed at about 2000 last night a report saying that "Luis Resck, the well-known agitator, who calls himself president of a nonrecognized party like the Christian Democratic Party (PDC), is in fact under arrest due to a communique regarding a Colorado Party government junta resolution rejecting the accusations of the Venezuelan Congress."

The minister added that "that man said that the Colorado Party used despicable language, void of content and offensive to the dear fatherland of Bolivar. This known agitator, who went to beg to the leftists and communists of the Venezuelan Congress, does not feel ashamed that the offense was against the Paraguayan people and the authentic nationalists who do not flirt with the left or with the disguised partners of any party."

Minister Montanaro then said: "We ask ourselves, who does Resck represent and in whose name is he speaking? Therefore we are going to enforce the law against the irresponsible and disrespectful."

LIBERAL TREATMENT OF FOREIGN CAPITAL FAVORED

PY260157 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0647 GMT 23 Jun 81

[Text] Lima, 23 Jun (LATIN-REUTER)--Peruvian Economy and Finance Minister Manuel Ulloa has announced that the government has completed a draft law on treatment of foreign capital.

Outlining the Peruvian program to a group of Spanish officials and businessmen, Ulloa said that the law is designed to attract not only foreign financing to the country but also more investments.

He added that the future program will set up the rules of the game and will observe the policy of settling disputes under the World Bank's international arbitration.

The minister described the consequences its proposal for a liberal treatment of foreign capital might have for, as an Andean Pact member, Peru has made formal commitments with its Andean partners--Bolivia, Ecuador, Colombia and Venezuela.

The Andean Pact, created in 1969, regulates treatment of foreign capital by member countries, establishing among other conditions that profit remittance range between 14 and 20 percent and that foreign enterprises become mixed in a 15-year term.

Peru has suggested on several occasions the revision of Andean Pact decision No 24, which deals with foreign capital, but so far it has not submitted a formal proposal to its partners.

At his meeting with the Spanish negotiators, Ulloa stated that the Peruvian Government wants to encourage foreign private investments in fields of mutual interest.

The minister told his visitors that Peru wants Spain to be the country through which investments from Arab countries could be funneled into a number of Peruvian industries.

We are interested in an association between Peru and Spain in which the latter may act as an intermediary for the Middle East's capital, he added.

The minister gave no details of the draft law on treatment of foreign capital. He just said that it will benefit Peru.

BRIEFS

DEBT PREPAYMENT--Lima, 5 Jun (TELAM)--In April, Peru paid off in advance a \$376-million debt with international banking enterprises which had been refinanced in 1980. This means that Peru will save \$219 million in interest which was to be paid over the next 6 years. This debt was due for repayment beginning in 1983 at the rate of \$104.7 million per year. The payment of \$376 million, coupled with the increase of demand for foreign currency needed to pay for imports has considerably reduced international reserves this year. The debt which had been paid off had been contracted with 203 banks of various countries grouped in 15 consortia. Central Bank sources reported that in April international reserves amounted to \$627 million, enough to cover import expenses for 3 months. [Text] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0435 GMT 5 Jun 81 PY]

BELIZEHEAVY INFLUX OF SALVAZORAN REFUGEES DENIED

FL251531 Bridgetown CANA in English 0915 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Excerpt] Belmopan, Belize, 25 Jun (CANA)--The government of Belize has said that there are about 2,000 Salvadoran refugees in this country. It was denying press claims that there are as many as 8,000.

Ministry officials today held discussions with the program officer for the UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) regional office in Costa Rica, Mr Ingemar Cederberg, who is on a visit to review the refugee situation here. It was agreed that from the assistance being given to refugees in Belize and the information on others needing assistance, the figure could be pitched higher than 2,000, the Home Affairs Ministry said, admitting that it is very difficult to arrive at an exact figure.

The government of Belize acted in July last year to stop the influx of persons claiming to be refugees and immigration figures are consistently showing a net outward movement of citizens of El Salvador from Belize, it added.

COSTA RICAMRP SUGGESTS MCRL MAY BENEFIT FROM TERRORISM

PA251612 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] According to Sergio Eric (Ardon), secretary general of the Peoples Revolutionary Movement (MRP), terrorist actions can be explained but not justified. Those kids, he added, do not know if they are being used for unknown purposes or if they are really fighting certain injustices from which Costa Rica has not escaped. But even if their reasons are well grounded, the MRP feels that popular struggles can still be waged here in our country without the unjust violence of terrorist actions.

According to the MRP secretary general, the Free Costa Rica Movement [MCRL] has held talks with similar groups in Central America and with an ultra-rightwing Cuban organization that operates from Miami. The MCRL would benefit from these terrorist actions, which would enable it to press for the organization of a completely repressive police corps, similar to those in countries where military dictatorships exist. The MRP also fears that the Judicial Investigation Organization's [word indistinct] in charge of the investigations might carry out unusual activities under pressure from certain sectors.

EL SALVADORMILITARY CONFIRMS INCREASED GUERRILLA ACTIVITY

PA251731 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] San Salvador--During the past 3 days the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] has intensified its guerrilla activities and harassment operations in the entire northern part of El Salvador, which includes the departments of San Vicente, Cabanas, Morazan, and Chalatenango, military sources confirmed yesterday in San Salvador.

Although military spokesmen minimized the importance of fighting in that area and refused to provide details or to give the number of casualties, a FMLN bulletin asserted today that the confrontations have been serious and that FMLN forces have already inflicted 60 casualties on the government's regular troops.

FDR AIDE SEES MORE CHANCE OF U.S. INTERVENTION

PM251028 Brussels LE SOIR in French 21-22 Jun 81 p 3

["J.-P.M." Report: "El Salvador: Only One Way Out for the Junta--Sending in American Troops"]

[Text] Is a direct intervention by American troops possible in El Salvador? According to Mr Salvador Samayoa, a member of the political and diplomatic commission of the Democratic Revolutionary Front [FDR] and the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN], the risk of an American landing has increased over the past few weeks. On the other hand, Mr Samayoa explained during a news conference held in Brussels, President Napoleon Duarte's military and Christian Democratic junta is refusing any international mediation; on the other hand, its army is incapable of inflicting a decisive defeat on the leftwing forces.

Despite the failure of the first phase of the general offensive last January there have been constant fighting and clashes in El Salvador. On Friday morning AFP again reported that the army had not succeeded in eliminating the FMLN forces in the Chinchontepec Volcano region 2 weeks after launching a vast antiguerrilla operation.

"The war has spread to the country's 14 departments," the opposition representative explained. "Battles are increasingly frequent and the people's forces' ability to resist has increased markedly. Three new fronts have been opened over the past 2 months and numerous secondary army posts have been dismantled. The guerrillas now have strategic passages throughout the country's territory and strengthened rearguard bases."

According to Mr Samayoa there is only one black spot--two provincial cities and San Salvador, the capital, where the left can only carry out commando actions because army control is predominant there.

In the economic sphere the junta's position is equally worrying: "The country needs \$460 million to make up the deficit in the external sector, almost 40 percent of the population is unemployed and inflation is not slowing down." "The crisis is irreversible and complete," the FDR spokesman observed.

The Junta Decorates Pinochet

According to Mr Samayoa the junta is also being increasingly discredited at the diplomatic level. "The members of the regime are forced to visit the countries of the southern cone to find the backing which the democratic countries are refusing them. They have gone so far as to decorate Augusto Pinochet." "The junta," Mr Samayoa continued, "has refused all offers of international mediation aimed at alleviating the civilian population's situation, avoiding the internationalization of the conflict and creating the right conditions for a negotiated solution."

What are the reasons for this refusal?

"The attitude of the United States, which is the country's real master," the Salvadoran left's representative replied. "Some 10 percent of the army officers have American nationality. Almost all the regime's finances come from bilateral American aid and from multilateral aid over which the United States exerts decisive control. Moreover, the junta's diplomatic relations are handled by the United States."

In this context, Mr Samayoa concluded, the risk of an intervention by American airborne troops is growing because the United States realizes that the Salvadoran army, even though trained by American advisers officially numbering 63, cannot eliminate the guerrillas. "But," the FDR leadership member warned, "if the United States enters El Salvador, it will not emerge victorious."

FMLN COMMANDER SAYS ELECTIONS SERVE AS JUNTA FRONT

PA250421 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 24 Jun 81

[Text] The following are excerpts of a news conference held somewhere in El Salvador with commanders of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN.

On this occasion, asked about the FMLN position concerning the call for elections by the dictatorship for 1982, Commander Juan Ramon Medrano of the Francisco Sanchez Southeastern Front, said:

[Begin recording] El Salvador is going through a historic conflict. We all know that over 50 years of dictatorship have created a situation of general misery among the people, a situation of institutionalized repression that has in the past few years turned into a revolutionary conflict. It is a situation of clear confrontation by the Salvadoran people against the Christian Democratic tyranny.

This historic situation has been produced by the fact that elections have always served as a front to impose colonels and generals through electoral fraud, which has been condemned by various international organizations. The mass protests have been silenced by bloody repression. To speak of elections at the present time, when popular revolutionary strife is underway, is the same as trying to hide the sun with your hands.

The present problem is a historic one, the result of a profound crisis caused by the greed of the Salvadoran oligarchy which, in order to preserve this situation of exploitation, has generated a succession of dictatorships up to the present Christian Democratic dictatorship. So far, this regime was claimed the lives of over 20,000 Salvadorans and is one of the most internationally repudiated regimes because of its open violation of human rights.

The United States, meanwhile, has clearly posed a war against the people, and the economic aid has been directed primarily at solving the junta's military problem against the Salvadoran people.

The proposal of the Socialist International for mediation in the Salvadoran conflict has clearly been turned down by the junta as it prepares for war, trusting Reagan's warlike position. In view of this evident warlike attitude of the Christian Democratic junta, the elections are just another front to disguise its true reactionary and repressive designs.

War is not the objective of the FMLN. We have been forced to rise up in arms in view of a long history of deceit and electoral fraud, and of generalized repression. To us, the problem is not whether there are elections. To us, the main problem lies in the type of government, in the present distribution of wealth and in the concentration of power in the hands of the oligarchy and a handful of fascist generals and officers.

As the solution for the present situation, we propose a democratic revolutionary government and the participation of all social sectors. In fact, the dialogue presents no problem to us and neither does the mediation proposed by the various international organizations who want a just solution for the Salvadoran people. [end recording]

GUATEMALAFP-31 LEADER NOTES READINESS FOR PEOPLE'S WAR

PA250430 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] Fernando Gonzalez, leader of the 31 January People's Front [FP-31] of Guatemala, has highlighted the Guatemalan people's readiness to stand up to a prolonged people's war, as well as to any foreign intervention.

In statements made to the press here in Havana, Gonzalez outlined the characteristics, functions and objectives of the FP-31, which was created on 31 January of this year in tribute to the victims of repression by Romeo Lucas Garcia's regime during the occupation of the Spanish Embassy in Guatemala City last year.

The young Guatemalan leader, who came to Cuba at the invitation of the Cuban Movement for the Peace and Sovereignty of Peoples, said that the FP-31 seeks to have the masses trained and tested in the people's war to overthrow the regime that is oppressing Guatemala.

Gonzalez said the FP-31, which is made up of organizations of peasants, workers, students and Christians, is already active in 10 of the country's 22 departments.

HONDURAS

IMPORT TAX OF DECREE NO 14 HARMING TRADE

Repeal Sought

PA252000 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 1145 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] Guatemala City (DPA)--Honduras is currently facing serious trade stagnation because its exports to Central America have dropped to zero, it was learned yesterday in Guatemala. The Guatemalan publication CORREO ECONOMICO stresses that the Honduran managerial sector and the Integration Advisory Council, the economic cabinet, are said to be considering urgent renegotiation of bilateral agreements with countries in the area in a bid to activate exports.

Honduran businessmen and workers are pressing for the Honduran constituent assembly to repeal Decree No 14, which clamped a 10-percent tax on Honduran imports from all over the world and gave rise to sweeping reprisals, as the Honduran Council of Private Enterprise had predicted, from Guatemala and Nicaragua. Added to the slump in Honduran exports to Costa Rica, this brought Honduran sales in the Central American isthmus down to zero.

Enforcement of this decree despite the warning has led to such chaos in exports that Honduras now finds itself forced to renegotiate its trade lists with Guatemala, Nicaragua and Costa Rica and will probably face a limitation in the number of items it can export free of customs duties to the other Central American countries. Although Honduran Government spokesmen have said that bilateral agreements are in suspense but in effect, the fact is that they are virtually outdated and that the bilateralism promoted by Honduras is no longer a viable solution for any country.

Regarding trade with Guatemala, Costa Rica and Nicaragua, Ramon (?Medina), Honduran deputy economy minister, said that substantial losses have been sustained in the last few days. The situation is worrisome because trade with those three countries is at a complete standstill. We have not estimated the losses yet but we are losing 52 percent of our exports to Central America in the case of Guatemala alone, he noted.

Honduras had obtained some advantages during previous negotiations on the list under the bilateral agreement with Guatemala. It secured approval for the admission of Honduran-made textiles and garments, despite opposition from Guatemalan textile producers. It is felt that Guatemala will no longer agree to discuss these items during the renegotiation requested by Honduras.

Meanwhile, Honduras' international reserves have dropped sharply, the president of the Honduran Central Bank said.

Decree Causes Economic Chaos

PA252253 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 1145 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Station editorial]

[Excerpts] If we try to find some justification, or even a logical way out of the current turmoil plaguing us, we will find that logic itself leads us to a single culprit behind all the evils the country is facing: The big culprit for all the confusion which has us on the brink of chaos is the disarray in the government resulting from a manifest inability to handle state matters.

Let no one say that he can handle with know-how and fiscal talent the real quandary in which the country has been placed with the adoption of steps that, rather than representing a lifeline, will bring a complete economic collapse. This fact has been confirmed by widespread reports. Yesterday, a report from Guatemala indicated that Honduran exports have dropped to nil. This means that Guatemala, Costa Rica, El Salvador, and much less Nicaragua, are not willing to accept the tax increase Honduras imposed by means of decree No 14.

The country is at an economic standstill. We thought at first that Decree No 14 would bring some benefits but are now convinced that only by repealing it or amending it to eliminate its harmful consequences can Honduras get a breather in the economic field.

We cannot explain so much administrative incompetence in the government unless all this is being provoked under the anachronistic liberal principle of laissez faire, laissez passer. What we want to point out is that for the remainder of the period until the elections, the circumstances which are being allowed to exist are fermenting social anarchy. This type of atmosphere has been used in the not too distant past to justify the overthrow of inept regimes.

Decree Described as Hasty

PA231235 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1815 GMT 22 Jun 81

[Sercano Network]

[Text] Hernan Corrales Padilla, presidential candidate of the Honduran Christian Democratic Party, has said that Decree No 14 is a partial measure to alleviate a complex economic situation that requires an overall approach with attention to the diverse aspects of the critical period our country is experiencing.

Corrales added that the decree was promulgated in haste. No attention was paid to the opinion of the sectors of the people which have a lot to say in this drama of pain and tragedy, he said. Corrales expressed the opinion that this measure, like others that are taken without consideration of socioeconomic facts, will not be accepted by the people.

Honduras' socioeconomic model has become worn-out and it is necessary to arrive at a consensus to replace it efficiently with a model based on the premise that social development must be an important part of any proposal that will affect the people.

The PDCH presidential candidate said the sectors that are responsible for guiding Honduras' sociopolitical life have a historic responsibility, and the way to avoid greater evils is to proceed immediately to take measures that permit free and democratic competition among all sectors of the nation.

I can say without fear of being mistaken that the popular sectors have waited patiently and desire peaceful coexistence, but this must be within a social order that provides the greatest possible degree of justice, Corrales Padilla said.

ECONOMY MINISTER PRESENTS AMENDMENTS TO DECREE 54

PA190356 Tegucigalpa Radio America Network in Spanish 1920 GMT 18 Jun 81

[Distributed by the Inter-Central American Radio Organization]

[Text] A surtax of from 5 to 30 percent will be imposed on luxury items. An amendment to this effect being proposed for Decree No 54 excludes not only oil, but also products covered by bilateral treaties, imported milk and baby food.

The Inter-Central American Radio Organization has obtained exclusive information about the amendment that might be presented to the president of the republic this week during a cabinet meeting.

Gen Policarpo Paz García, exercising his authority as president of the nation, last weekend ordered all agencies involved in the application of the controversial decree to hold emergency meetings to formulate policies that would permit a reduction of tension with neighboring countries and to reduce the inflationary impact resulting from implementation of the decree.

Economy Minister Ruben Mondragon presented for the consideration of the members of the cabinet meeting at the government ministry a document prepared by a group of specialists who were not identified. The document proposes several amendments, ranging from the establishment of a customs surcharge of from 5 to 30 percent, in addition to the 10 percent provided for in Decree No 14, to the exemption of oil and its byproducts, milk, baby food and products covered by bilateral treaties.

We learned that the new surcharge of from 5 to 30 percent applies only to a list of products considered to be luxury items, such as electrical equipment, cosmetics, drinks, automobiles and so forth. In addition, the document suggests an immediate review of bilateral treaties signed by Honduras with the other Central American countries, in an attempt to improve the terms of trade for products covered by Decree No 54.

The government lost an additional fiscal revenue of over 80 million lempiras and now hopes to recoup it with the new tax on luxury items. The document explains that the customs tariff cannot be considered an increased sales tax, as some private enterprise sectors initially described it.

As could be expected, the proposed amendments met with firm opposition from finance ministry authorities led by Minister Valentin Mendoza. It was learned that Economy and Commerce Minister Ruben Mondragon's sharpness toward newsmen on Monday as he was leaving the cabinet meeting was the result of the serious differences that occurred between him and the finance minister, because the latter refuses to admit that the promulgation of the decree had been an error.

UNIVERSITY RECTOR REBUKES U.S. AMBASSADOR

PA261728 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 1145 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Presumed text of letter to U.S. Ambassador Jack R. Binns from Juan Almendarez Bonilla, rector of the National Autonomous University of Honduras; no date given]

[Text] Mr Ambassador:

I acknowledge receipt of your note of 19 June, in which you express surprise at having read in the press a statement, attributed to me, that both your government and you are in some way responsible for the recent violence in Honduras. I take the liberty of telling you that I sincerely regret the fact that on this occasion you have abandoned your customary skepticism about newspapers reports and, for that reason, have neglected for a moment the high functions of your post to busy yourself with this petty matter.

As a person who is highly responsible for his actions, I inform you that I have nothing to take back concerning my statement at the news conference to which the newspaper you read refers. Neither do I have to submit any evidence about what I said. If you want to know exactly what I said and not what has been attributed to me you are cordially invited to listen to the recording of my statements.

As for the remark that the U.S. Government and your embassy support the return to a constitutional and democratic regime in Honduras, I feel it is my duty to tell you that this decision has been firmly adopted by the Honduran people, who have been forced for almost 18 years to live under an unconstitutional regime.

I hope you will not object to my releasing this letter to the press, as you did yours.

Yours very truly,

[Signed] Juan Almendarez Bonilla, rector of the National Autonomous University of Honduras.

LEFTIST LEADER ACCUSES POLICE OF REPRESSION

PA241909 Paris AFP in Spanish 1919 GMT 22 Jun 81

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 22 Jun (AFP)--Augusto Mejia, spokesman for the People's Revolutionary Union [URP], said here today that his fellow members of the organization, Tomas Nativi and Fidel Martinez, who were kidnapped 10 days ago by an unidentified group, "are still alive and are being tortured by the Honduran police."

The leftist leader accused the police of arresting Nativi and Martinez and of being responsible "for the repression that exists in Honduras through paramilitary groups and other police organizations."

Mejia said that in spite of police threats to the relatives of Nativi and Martinez because they accused the police of being responsible for the disappearance of Nativi and Martinez, the URP spokesman reaffirms that "this is the way it is" and that he cannot remain silent "about a crime that shows a complete violation of human rights."

HEAVY RAINS, FLOODS REPORTED ON NORTHERN COAST

PA241816 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 24 Jun 81

[Excerpts] We have a report from Salvador Canales in San Pedro Sula about floods on the northern coast of the country:

[Begin recording] About 600 families in various sectors of the northern coast have been evacuated by the authorities. The first death by drowning has been reported in the La Wima sector. Wilfredo Martinez Fernandez, a 17-year-old from La Lima, was swept away by the waters of the Chamelecon River as he was removing logs from the river. The public security force authorities of Lima have not reported whether they have been able to find the body in the turbulent waters. Some 600 families in the valley of (Chulután) in Santa Barbara and on the banks of the river, including the banana plantations in the La Lima area, have had to be evacuated. On Tuesday afternoon Sergeant (Serrato) of that sector got in touch with San Pedro Sula municipal Mayor Ronald Valenzuela to get permission to use the land next to the cemetery to relocate a large number of families living in (El Tajo) neighborhood. These families lost their personal belongings and their houses were swept away by the waters. The local fire department and Red Cross have mobilized to rescue more families in the (Chumagua) area. [end recording]

Torrential rains have continued on most of the northern coast. We have a report by Jose Rolando Sarimento from EL PROGRESO about the floods:

[Begin recording] We are reporting on the situation in the past few hours in the northwestern area of the country after the heavy rains. As our colleagues have reported from San Pedro Sula, the most serious problems have occurred in the Chamelecon area, in southern San Pedro Sula, where some 500 peoples have been evacuated to the community center located some 4 km from the center of San Pedro Sula.

So far, according to local authorities, the situation is normal. The only problem is that the high level of the rivers is quite unusual because these are only the first storms of the winter season. The Ulua River and the [name indistinct] river are already rising. This situation usually occurs in September, October and November. The early winter season has led to this situation. The only thing we can do over Voz de Honduras, which is heard by more than 3 million Hondurans, is alert the residents of northwestern Honduras, particularly those living on the banks of the Ulua and Chamelecon Rivers and their tributaries, to take preventive measures. They should organize themselves to keep guard at night and watch the level of the rivers. [end recording]

Here is another report from the northern coast of Guadalupe Guevara:

[Begin recording] The rivers and streams of Yoro Department have begun to overflow. The Ulua River is on the verge of flooding in some sectors. For the time being, it has continued to rain in San Pedro Sula, El Progreso, Tela and other towns in northern Honduras. [end recording]

NICARAGUA

FSLN'S SEVILLA VIEWS 21 JUNE NATIONAL FORUM

PA220028 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1813 GMT 21 Jun 81

[Interview with Nathan Sevilla of the Sandinist National Liberation Front during a recess at the forum on national problems held at the Planning Ministry auditorium in Managua--live]

[Excerpts] [Question] What do you think about the agreements reached between the rightist sectors and the revolutionary groups?

[Answer] We have debated the basis of the written proposals presented by the delegation representing the revolutionary forces and dealing with matters of importance for the country. What is the choice, reform or revolution. In this regard we have established the thesis, which the opposition parties were forced to accept as valid, that we are in a revolutionary process in which we cannot think in terms of reforms. It is true that we can promote an agrarian reform, fiscal and financial reforms, reforms in the distribution of income, reforms in the levying of taxes which are still being paid mostly by the people through indirect taxes. There are also reforms in production and productivity in order to raise production. These are the only true means of solving the economic and social problems of the Nicaraguan people.

Within these terms, to speak of reforms is positive because it does not deny the irreversible character of the revolution and its constant advance. Also it affirms the need to advance step by step. In this gradual advance, the revolutionary forces can agree completely with forces which are not completely in agreement with the revolutionary bloc and which try to limit advances to small reforms.

For example, they try to cling like drowning men to some points of the fundamental statute with which they believe they can protect the interests of the capitalist minorities in this country. However they try to deny other important fundamental statute points such as the people's right to solve economic, political and social problems according to the interests of the majorities.

Today we discussed these matters thoroughly and they were compelled to admit that the documents, both those presented by us and by them, will have to be analyzed by the moderator to see what agreements can be found.

[Question] The MAP [Peoples Action Movement] delegate at the forum said that the attitude of the rightist parties today was more positive than during the two previous sessions.

[Answer] Well, I think that the arguments of the revolution are very objective and realistic. They interpret the interests of the people much better, and in this respect, any other political force sustaining a different attitude is forced to admit that it should center its attention on objective and not subjective aspects of problems and not try to discuss abstract and obsolete concepts about democracy, pluralism and revolution or reformism. I have also noticed that local reactionaries do not understand revolutionary demands. One example is the way in which they attack the property of the people, the state property.

A shortcoming is the new administrators' lack of experience or the attitude of some workers who, following the revolutionary triumph, believed that managing the people's property did not require discipline. These are problems discussed not only by the Sandinist National Liberation Front as a vanguard, but also by the unions and the workers in general. In this respect they are showing a very positive attitude. They fully agree that work must be organized to increase production. In short, we are going to continue the discuss today analyzing the real causes of the economic problems affecting the people. Here again we shall discuss the matter of people's property.

PROBOURGEOIS PARTIES BLAMED FOR ECONOMIC CRISIS

PA230308 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 22 Jun 81

[Station commentary: "The Politicized Producers and Businessmen, the Main Internal Factor in the Deterioration of the Economic Crisis"]

[Excerpts] The group of probourgeois and antirevolutionary parties and organizations that agreed to call themselves "dissidents of the leadership of the revolution," but which--in their political diversionism--are also calling themselves democratic, were stubbornly blaming the revolution as the internal factor of the country's serious economic crisis at yesterday's session of the forum for the discussion of the national problems.

The parties that are staunch supporters of the process have shown their revolutionary honesty by admitting the involuntary errors--typical of inexperience--that have been committed in the management of certain state-owned enterprises and in certain government measures. However, the foxes who glorify a complete free enterprise system grabbed at this opportunity and tried to cover up for those who are truly responsible for the deterioration of our economic situation.

But the facts demonstrate that the intentional destabilization--work slowdowns, the flight of capital and sabotage--being carried out by the socioeconomic sectors made up of politicized landowners, proprietors and businessmen who reject the revolutionary process are the main internal factor for the worsening of the country's economic crisis.

The people are aware of this and in view of this destabilizing activity which is truly counterrevolutionary, the masses are getting organized in the Sandinist Defense Committees, the workers in their revolutionary unions and the farmworkers in the Farmworkers Association.

For this reason, we are witnessing how our hard working masses are gradually moving from revolutionary vigilance and the simple denunciation of the flight of capital, speculation and economic sabotage to more direct and viable defense measures.

This main internal factor in the deterioration of the crisis is not an underhanded attempt to portray reality by the revolution. It is reality and we are sure that the probourgeois parties and organizations that tried to draw a smokescreen around it at the forum yesterday are aware of this.

This is a situation that the Revolutionary Government must solve immediately before its consequences have further negative effects on the fulfillment of the economic goals for the 1981 plan.

Capital Being Depleted

PA232336 Managua International Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 23 Jun 81

[Report on speech by Commander Henry Ruiz, Nicaraguan planning minister; date and place of speech not given]

[Text] Commander Henry Ruiz, Nicaraguan planning minister has spoken on the actions by the local bourgeoisie to deplete the country's capital.

[Begin Ruiz recording] The country's capital is being depleted. The bourgeoisie is asking for resources allegedly to work and we have given them these resources. We have placed the country in debt and now we have a larger burden to bear than that left by Somoza. We did this to ensure the availability of working capital with which the so-called native bourgeoisie was to work. To create new jobs, we had to obtain great financing resources; we have taken on debts so we can all start to work.

What have these people done in return? They have received the resources through the financing system, that is, in the banks converted them into dollars on the black market and exported them to their fatherland: Miami. [end recording]

Commander Ruiz added that revolutionary patience is running out because this sector is speculating with the people's hunger.

[Begin recording] Tolerance is coming to an end, just as our patience ran out with the dictator, in the face of these tricks and maneuvers. The only concern of the revolutionary leadership is for the people's interests. It is necessary to speak clearly. We loaned money to the commercial sector and now it claims things were more expensive than estimated. They hide large amounts of dollars abroad while the people continue to get poorer. Living costs are rising, not because of a lack of will on the part of the revolutionary leadership or the government junta, but because speculators are getting together with the same gangs that betrayed us in the past. [applause] The people do not have to put up with this misery. [end recording]

Borge Issues Warning

PA241702 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Jun 81

[Text] Anyone who decapitalizes his business will lose it, Commander Tomas Borge warned emphatically yesterday in Diriamba on the occasion of the second anniversary of that city's liberation.

Earlier Commander Borge had referred to the role of the reactionaries, saying some have even tried to downgrade heroes and martyrs, claiming to be concerned with the fate of the working class, as if we were not witness to the campaign they have been carrying out to decapitalize businesses and lead the nation to an economic crisis.

Call For Nationalization

PA231528 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0010 GMT 22 Jun 81

[Text] Managua, 21 Jun (ACAN-EFE)--Eli Altamirano, delegate of the Communist Party in the forum on national problems, today demanded the nationalization of Nicaragua's basic agricultural production (cotton, coffee and livestock).

The Communist delegate said Nicaragua should nationalize those vital activities of the economy, following the example of Mexico, Venezuela, Ecuador and other Latin American countries.

Altamirano said that "the production of cotton, coffee and livestock represents our petroleum and must be protected from the maneuvers that the capitalist businessmen carry out to deplete capital from the farms."

The Communist leader also called for the deepening of the agrarian reform and a new legal order that will end the monopolies that affect the interests of the people "who are displeased about the lack of food and other essentials because the changes to solve this situation have not taken place."

Donald Castillo of the Federation of Nicaraguan Workers, who supports the Nicaraguan revolution but is against the Sandinist leadership, expressed his agreement with Altamirano and demanded that the state turn over to the peasants the farms that have been confiscated.

Castillo also asked that the businessmen who are found guilty of depleting capital from their farms be punished.

WHEELOCK RAPS U.S. STAND ON NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE

PA241322 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Jun 81

[Text] Commander Jaime Wheelock condemned as "prejudiced" the attitude of the Reagan administration by conditioning its presence at the so-called North-South dialogue on the absence of Cuba. Wheelock is in Mexico on a 3-day visit, and in broaching the subject said the United States does not take into account the real problems at the international level.

ANN reported this morning from Mexico City that Commander Wheelock in a statement to reporters also commented on the case of El Salvador. He referred to two alternatives in the case of El Salvador: either the arming by the United States of the nations of Latin America and the initiation of new bloodbaths or the search for a peaceful solution, which the Latin American peoples feel is the course that should be adopted by the democratic revolutionary organizations.

He flatly denied reports that depict Nicaragua as the aggressor and destabilizer in the area. We guarantee the stability of Central America and promote a climate of peace, said Commander Wheelock. He added that the problem of insurgency in the area is an old one and arises from the traditional social, political and economic conditions in Central America.

MINISTER BORGE SAYS REVOLUTION 'DESIGNED TO LAST'

PA201507 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Jun 81

[Excerpts] Mexico City--The counterrevolutionaries receiving military training in United States, Honduras and Guatemala will never be victorious because the Sandinist revolution was not designed to last 1 or 2 years: It was designed to last forever.

Commander of the Revolution Tomas Broge, the Nicaraguan minister of interior, made this statement to the magazine PUNTA FINAL published by the Chilean resistance. Under the title "The Reply Will Be Given by Our People, a People in Arms," the magazine has published an interview with the Sandinist leader, who analyzes various aspects of Nicaragua's present situation and its position vis-a-vis the Yankee government's warmongering policy.

Queried by newswoman Isidora Robles on the significance and possible consequences in Nicaragua from imperialism's warlike offensive to gain hegemony over the international capitalist camp, Commander Borge recounted the revolutionary movements that emerged in the decade of the 60's in Vietnam, Angola, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Iran, Grenada and Nicaragua. Imperialism was on the retreat everywhere, he added, so Reagan's campaign is founded on containing revolutionary movements and on confronting socialism, in a word, on a warmongering policy.

He also explained that because of the difficulty imperialism faces in acting in the Middle East, Europe or the Persian Gulf, Reagan has defined North America as the terrain where his aggressive policy may develop more vigorously.

He arms El Salvador's Christian Democratic-military junta to the teeth; he offers all kinds of aid, trying to defeat the revolutionaries of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front. The same thing is happening in Guatemala and Honduras, added Borge.

In the face of this situation, said the Nicaraguan minister, Nicaragua has to reinforce its defense, mobilize the people permanently and prepare in all fields to respond to aggression.

The Sandinist revolution has triumphed and the Sandinist revolution will remain because that is the wish of our people, he emphasized.

SOCIAL CHRISTIANS SCORE POLITICAL REPRESSION

PA240213 Managua Radio Corporacion In Spanish 2300 GMT 23 Jun 81

[News bulletin issued by the Social Christian Party of Nicaragua "just received" at the Cinco en Punto newsroom--read by announcer]

[Text] Despite the forum and the constant claims of the government abroad that Nicaragua enjoys total respect for freedom of political organization and mobilization, the facts belie such claims.

New evidence of this is the unjust arrest of three leaders of the Democratic Conservative Party: Jose Castillo Cejos, Felix Pedro Espinoza and Alejo Telles, while engaged in civic activities in the name of the party in San Lorenzo.

The prisoners were subjected to questioning prior to their release.

The Social Christian Party condemns this act of political persecution and denounces this type of harassment against members and supporters of the Social Christian Party who have participated and continue to participate in party activities.

These repressive actions are a clear indication of the significance of the popular democracy being promoted by the antidemocratic sector of our country.

OBANDO AWAITED AFTER CONTROVERSIAL STATEMENTS

PA241507 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Jun 81

[Text] What is happening to Msgr Miguel Obando? Quite a few Nicaraguan Catholics are asking this question in view of reports from abroad on the Managuan archbishop's statements.

An EFE report from Caracas states that Monsignor Obando deplores the fact that his country's government is organizing such a big army for such a small country, since this will represent a very great expense. According to EFE, the archbishop arrived yesterday in Caracas for a 2-day visit that includes meetings with President Luis Herrera Campins and with several Venezuelan prelates.

According to EFE, Monsignor Obando said this country's economic situation is not very promising despite a \$100-million loan from Libya and several tons of Soviet wheat. Obando y Bravo criticized the presence of Catholic priests in several Sandinist government ministries, commenting that these officials have already been warned that they must withdraw from their posts. He also discussed rumors about the Sandinists' alleged interference in Honduras' internal affairs.

Regarding this, he said the church does not discuss rumors and only comments publicly on developments when it is sure of things. In this case, he explained, there is no conclusive evidence that there has been any collaboration with the guerrillas in El Salvador. He stressed that the Nicaraguan people want peace and freedom and completely reject the Marxist ideology.

We received this report last night. By coincidence it reflects the opinions of the reactionary groups that dissent from the revolutionary process and have been participating in the forum for discussion of national problems.

We will continue to await Monsignor Obando's arrival so he can say these things personally in Nicaragua. He was expected in Managua yesterday, but showed up for a 2-day visit to Venezuela.

VATICAN PERMITS PRIESTS TO REMAIN IN GOVERNMENT

PA241316 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Jun 81

[Excerpt] The Nicaraguan Christian communities were pleased yesterday to learn from a Vatican dispatch that Pope John Paul II had not ordered the separation of the Nicaraguan priests serving under the Revolutionary Government.

Borge Calls for Church Unity

PA240320 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Jun 81

[Excerpts] We ask for understanding. The revolution has its doors open for understanding. It is not possible that while the government today does not persecute the Christians, a sector of the ecclesiastic hierarchy should be engaged in doing just that.

This statement was vehemently repeated over and over yesterday by Commander Tomas Borge, interior minister, at Diriamba, and he dedicated a good part of his address to the topic of religion.

We want a single church. For the first time in history Christians and revolutionaries find ourselves searching for a single light. It is a challenge which the world is watching with interest, he added. The following are excerpts of Commander Tomas Borge's speech yesterday in Diriamba.

[Begin recording] We want the unity of the church, and our revolution will do everything possible to make that unity stronger. It will do everything in its power to establish a constructive dialogue with the church hierarchy, for which we have great respect. Never before has a revolutionary voice expressed itself against the church hierarchy. I am sure they will understand that just as we have respected them, we also ask to be respected.

The revolution has always been in favor of the broadest religious freedom. We have guaranteed such freedom. Not only have we guaranteed that freedom, but we have tried to help religious activities to be truly religious. [sentence indistinct] We have not arrested any priests despite the fact that in some instances they have been some engaged in counterrevolutionary activities. In such cases, we have preferred to talk to them and tell them: Friends, do not get involved in such things. You are priests and you should engage in preaching Christianity. We shall support you in such activities. In this country we are never going to throw a priest in jail, regardless of what he may do because we have sufficient confidence in our moral strength and in ourselves and our people to act cautiously and prudently.

[Words indistinct] in a broader spirit. This is the first time in the history of mankind in which there is a real possibility for total integration between Christians and revolutionaries. Why not accept such a historic challenge? Why not seek the happiness of our people together? Why not permit Christians and revolutionaries to walk on the same path? Why not make it possible for Christians and revolutionaries to live under the same sun as true brothers. [applause] [end recording]

Ramirez' Stand Scored

PA231759 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 18 Jun 81 p 2

[Editorial: "One Single Church"]

[Text] The Catholic people of Nicaragua, an overwhelming majority, love their church and do not want divisions.

Those who love the church and who are loyal to it because, despite its human imperfections, it represents Jesus Christ, want its unity and reject division. A Catholic may see behavior he does not like and he can even dissent from some actions. However, if he is loyal he will not promote, with actions or by stating opinions, situations that could harm the church, hurt the prestige of its pastors or weaken the authority they must have.

In the present controversy over priests in government, some Christians, including some priests, have stated their disagreement with the bishops' resolution. However, their statements in general have shown respect for the church hierarchy and often have been prudent calls to a dialogue and to reconsiderations.

Unfortunately this cannot be said about the statements made recently by Ramirez Mercado, statements later repeated by the education minister on "Face the People" and then happily picked up by a class of journalism that apparently lies in wait to create difficulties for the church hierarchy.

We are referring specifically to Ramirez Mercado's statements published Monday in a pro-government daily.

The member of the junta praised Gaspar Garcia Laviana and contrasted a supposedly corrupt church with a supposedly authentic and Christian church. The proposition culminated with the daring insinuation that there are two churches in Nicaragua.

We do not know why Ramirez Mercado has the inclination to treat the church in a way that not even dissident Christian elements have ever used. Last year he openly attacked the Latin American Bishops' Conference, the most important organization of the Latin American church.

It is evident that his attitude amounts to meddling in an area where elemental norms of courtesy and tact call for no meddling. This attitude is harmful to his government and to the Sandinist National Liberation Front.

It is certain that for the Catholic people of Nicaragua there is only one church, headed by its bishops, who are loved and respected by the people. Anyone working against this will inevitably antagonize the majority of the people and hurt their feelings.

REPORTAGE ON BATTALION FORMATION, MOVEMENTS

Battalion 95-32

PA221902 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Jun 81

[Text] The Camilo Ortega Saavedra Sandinist neighborhood committee cordially invites everyone to bid farewell to Battalion 95-32 today at 0830. The battalion will be departing from the Camilo Ortega Saavedra Monument.

Women's Battalion

PA221910 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Jun 81

[Text] Attention, companeras: The Luisa Amanda Espinoza Nicaraguan Women's Association [AMNLAE] departmental organization hereby invites you to go to the registration centers for the mobilization of the women's reserve battalion on 7 July.

The registration centers are as follows:

The AMNLAE departmental center in all work centers of the (?tobacco) sector; the Sandinist Youth departmental center; [word indistinct] departmental center; the Davila Bolanos Hospital; the health committee of the [word indistinct] in Esteli; and the AMNLAE coordinating center in each neighborhood.

Women, present at the reserve battalion [as heard]

Sandinist Youth Battalion

PA221918 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Jun 81

[Text] On 25 June, the Sandinist Youth will mobilize many of its militants in Battalion 30-62 of the Sandinist People's Militas. This battalion will be the first to depart under the leadership of our organized youth reserves of Nicaragua. This mobilization is to mark the occasion of the second anniversary of the victory of the Sandinist people's revolution and the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Sandinist National Liberation Front.

Masaya Battalions

PA221932 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Jun 81

[Report by correspondent Johnny Henry Mendoza, from Masaya]

[Text] A ceremony was held yesterday at 1500 to bid farewell to the June Heroes and Martyrs Battalion, a student reserve battalion, and the Laura Espinoza Company, a women's reserve militia both from Masaya.

The ceremony was organized by (Departmental Leadership Committee) [Comite de Direccion Departmental--?ODD] which invited the following guests: representing the (?CDD), Companero Octavio Caldera, political secretary; for the Sandinist People's Army, Commander Hilario Sanchez, chief of the sixth military zone; Companero Julio Marengo, coordinator of the Masaya municipal junta.

The companeros were all very happy and left at 1700. Both the men and the women companeros all had a very high sense of duty for combat.

Rivas Battalion 80-12

PA222214 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 22 Jun 81

[Excerpt] Members of Battalion 80-12 of Rivas have returned from training happy and optimistic. This battalion is the second one to be formed in Rivas Department and is made up of young workers, peasants, and students, of both sexes, born in San Jorge, Buenos Aires, [words indistinct] returned yesterday to Rivas, after completing their intensive training at the Pedro (Arauz) Palacios Military School.

Of course, their training not only improved their physical condition, but also taught them how to use various weapons. Their training also (?intensified) their revolutionary discipline and improved their knowledge of political and social sciences.

Likewise, the residents of San Juan del Sur, the second most important port of the Pacific Coast of the new Nicaragua, rejoiced over the return of their children who are also members of the Battalion of People's Militias 80-12.

NATIONAL BANK TO RECEIVE LOAN FROM ARAB BANKS

FL251035 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] The National Bank of Cuba [BNC] and a group of Arab banks have signed an agreement in Madrid, Spain, to lend 60-million Canadian dollars to our country. The amount is to be used to finance various projects in Cuba's economic and social development plan for the current 5-year period. Arrangements were made by the Spanish Arab Bank.

The signing of the agreement was presided over by the minister president of the BNC, Raul Leon Torras, who noted the growing economic links of our country with the Arab world and the potential for other initiatives in that field.

PEACE MOVEMENT SUPPORTS DPRK ON 31ST ANNIVERSARY

FL251530 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] The Cuban Movement for Peace and Sovereignty of Peoples has expressed its unconditional support for democratic Korea in its struggle against imperialist provocations and of the peaceful and independent reunification of that country.

This was expressed by the organization in a statement released in this capital on the 31st anniversary of the beginning of the war unleashed against our brother country by Yankee imperialism. The statement adds that the Korean people fought back victoriously and inflicted an ignominious defeat on the invaders, compelling them to sign the Panmunjom Armistice on 27 July 1953. It says that the U.S. imperialists have not learned the necessary lessons from their defeat but are keeping an army in the south, maintaining a puppet government, supplying it with modern armament and intensifying the provocations at the border.

DPRK Envoy's News Conference

FL260116 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] Today, on the occasion of the beginning of the month of anti-Yankee common struggle for the withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea, DPRK Ambassador to Cuba Yi In-chun held a news conference at his country's embassy. The Korean diplomat stated that on the occasion of the beginning of the event, which will end on 27 July, the voice of solidarity in support and endorsement of the just cause of the Korean people for the withdrawal of Yankee troops from South Korea and for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country can be heard with great vigor in Cuba and throughout the world. Finally, the DPRK ambassador to Cuba expressed his gratitude to the Cuban people for their active support for and solidarity with his people's struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

EDUCATION VICE MINISTER PEREZ MAZA VISITS ANGOLA

FL251500 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] Luanda--Benito Perez Maza, Cuban first vice minister of higher education, has arrived in Luanda for a working visit during which the broadening of Cuban cooperation with Angola in higher education will be studied. Perez Maza told PRENSA LATINA that the expansion of Cuban cooperation with Angola in university teaching is currently being studied and explained that the assistance with teachers, who now number over 40, will possibly be doubled.

The Cuban vice minister was welcomed last night at Luanda Airport by (Joaquim da Silva Macia), first education vice minister of the People's Republic of Angola.

COAST GUARD CAPTURES FOUR VENEZUELAN BOATS

PA251943 Paris AFP in Spanish 1633 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] Porlamar, Venezuela, 25 Jun (AFP)--Four Venezuelan boats carrying more than 50 persons have been seized in international waters by the Guyanese Coast Guard. Captains Freddy Velasquez and Cruz Marin of the boats "Pioneer II" and "Gloria" reported this on arriving at Margarita Island, located in eastern Venezuela.

According to Velasquez and Marin, the boats captured by the Guyanese authorities are the "Iris," under the command of Capt Celso Zabala; "Beatriz", under Capt Francisco Milano; "Remer," under Capt Valeriano Marin; and "Luz del Dia," under Capt Jose Vincente Valerio. Each boat carries 13 people. They managed to escape when Guyanese patrol boats attacked 13 Venezuelan ships in international waters.

Guyana had recently charged that three Guyanese ships were seized in Tucupita, capital of the Delta Amacuro Federal Territory in northeastern Venezuela.

OPPOSITION CONDEMNS U.S. MOVE AGAINST GRENADA

FL221630 Bridgetown CANA in English 1537 GMT 22 Jun 81

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, 22 Jun (CANA)--The official opposition here has condemned a recent move by the United States to block its funds to the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) going to Grenada. The opposition People's Progressive Party (PPP) labeled it a "blatant act of discrimination and intimidation by the U.S. Government against the people and Government of Grenada," and has begun drumming up support for Grenada in the Caribbean.

PPP leader Dr Cheddi Jagan has cabled several leftist groups in the Caribbean, including the Workers Party of Jamaica (WPU), calling for action on the issue. Dr Jagan said he has also cabled parliamentary associations of Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados and Jamaica on the issue.

In a statement, the PPP said the U.S. excuse for its action, that the People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) of Grenada had not respected human rights and had not held promised elections since the March 1979 coup was "hypocritical."

The opposition Working People's Alliance (WPA) here has also condemned the U.S. action.

BRIEFS

EEC FOOD AID--Georgetown, Guyana, 11 Jun (CANA)--Guyana is getting some 1,600 tons of foodstuff this year from the European Economic Community (EEC) under the Community's 1981 food aid program. The local EEC office here said Guyana's quota was made up of 500 tons of skimmed milk powder, 100 tons of butter oil and 1,000 tons of cereals. After the payment of shipping charges and local handling costs, the remainder of the sales proceeds, about 1.6 million dollars (1 Guy; dollar 33 cents U.S.) will form a fund to be used for agricultural development projects in Guyana, the office said. [Bridgetown CANA in English 1853 GMT 11 Jun 81 FL]

BOLIVIAMILITARY SOURCES CONFIRM ARREST OF OFFICERS

PY250139 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0124 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Excerpts] La Paz, 24 Jun (LATIN-REUTER)--Reliable military sources told this agency today that a group of officers of the Bolivian Armed Forces have been arrested and that their alleged participation in drug trafficking is being investigated.

According to the information, the group of officers--the number could not be learned--was arrested several days ago. It was made clear that the investigation is being carried out by the permanent military court. The sources explained that those who are found guilty of involvement in drug trafficking will be discharged and handed over to the civilian courts.

The military sources said that during the past few hours no other member of the military has been arrested. The military sources also indicated that they could not give the names of the arrested officers.

CARIBBEANBARBADOSGOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES EXPORT, IMPORT FIGURES

FL252130 Bridgetown CANA in English 2035 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 Jun (CANA)--Barbados domestic exports rose by 12.4 percent in the first quarter of 1981 compared with the same period last year, according to latest provisional figures. The figures from the Government Statistical Office show that total domestic exports for January to March 1981 were valued at 57.7 million dollars (1 Bds dollar; 50 cents U.S.). The 1980 first quarter saw domestic exports reach 51.3 million dollars.

"The increase (in domestic exports) can be attributed to the higher sales of electronic components to North America," Central Bank economist Edsil Phillips said. "That is the main reason."

However, the bank has reported that industrial production dipped by 5 percent for the quarter this year compared with a growth during the 1980 period of 15 percent. The total index of industrial production for January to March 1981 (base year 1971; 100) was 450 points compared with 477 points for last year's first quarter.

Total exports were estimated at 83.3 million dollars for the first quarter this year compared with 85.4 million dollars last year. Barbados' total imports were 280.8 million dollars for the 1981 first quarter and 263.3 million dollars for the corresponding period last year.

HAITIGOVERNMENT DESIGNATES REPRESENTATIVE TO OAS

FL201157 Bridgetown CANA in English 2256 GMT 19 Jun 81

[Text] Washington, 19 Jun (CANA)--Georges N. Leger, today presented his credentials as the new representative of Haiti to the Organization of American States (OAS).

Mr Leger made the presentation to Ambassador Eladio Knipping-Victoria, chairman of the Permanent Council and representative of the Dominican Republic, during a brief ceremony here.

CHILE

PRESIDENT LABELS DISSIDENT WORKERS 'COMMUNISTS'

PY252104 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Report from Government House by Graciela Contrepras]

[Excerpts] President Pinochet has emphasized that he feels no love toward the communists. This was his answer to whether he had received a list of requests from the National Union Coordination Board.

In this regard he said that he has not met with any communists: I have not met with these gentlemen from the coordination board; I have no interest in them. They are communists who are going around creating problems, problems which are all their doing.

During an informal talk with the journalists accredited to La Moneda Government House, Pinochet stressed that he feels no love for communists.

Further on he indicated that a favorable turn has taken place within the framework of future U.S.-Chilean relations. He said: The foreign minister has briefed me on certain successes attained by his tour and I believe that the course set is quite favorable to Chile.

BRIEFS

TURKISH AMBASSADOR LEAVES--Sakip Bayaz, Turkish ambassador to Chile, has met with President Augusto Pinochet to say farewell, as he is leaving his position after 7 years in Chile. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 Jun 81 PY]

NEW INDIAN AMBASSADOR--Mukur Kanti Kisha today presented his credentials to President Augusto Pinochet as the new Indian ambassador in Santiago, Chile. [Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Jun 81 PY]

NEW AMBASSADORS NAMED--The government announced today that Javier Illanes Fernandez has been named ambassador to Brazil. It also announced that Brazil had given its agreement. Illanes replaces Fernando Zegers Santa Cruz. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Jun 81 PY] The government announced that Thailand has accepted Brig Gen (ret) Fernando Gonzalez Martinez as the new Chilean ambassador to Bangkok. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Jun 81 PY]

PANAMA

TORRIJOS MEETS WITH VENEZUELA'S ANDRES PEREZ

PA232016 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1822 GMT 22 Jun 81

[Text] Panama City, 22 Jun (ACAN-EFE)--Former Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez, leader of the Latin American division of the Socialist International, met during the weekend with Gen Omar Torrijos, commander in chief of the National Guard and former chief of government.

Sources close to Torrijos confirmed the meeting to ACAN-EFE today but they did not mention the subjects that were discussed.

Former President Perez will meet today and tomorrow in Panama with Felipe Gonzalez, secretary general of the Spanish Socialist Workers Party, and with other Socialist and Social Democratic leaders, who will travel later to Nicaragua.

The Committee for the Defense of the Nicaraguan Revolution, created by the Socialist International in a meeting in Madrid in 1980, will meet in Managua beginning Wednesday.

BOLIVIAN ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF ANEZ ARRIVES

PA212120 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1745 GMT 21 Jun 81

[Text] Panama City, 21 Jun (ACAN-EFE)--Gen Lucio Anez Rivero, Bolivian Army chief of staff, started an official visit in Panama today aimed at strengthening the ties between the armed institutions of the two countries, Panamanian military officers told ACAN-EFE.

Anez Rivero arrived in Panama last night accompanied by four other high-ranking military officers of Bolivia at the invitation of Gen Omar Torrijos, commander in chief of the National Guard and leader of the regime. [as received]

The agenda for the visit or the number of days that the Bolivian delegation will remain in Panama have not been disclosed.

VENEZUELA

MINISTER CALDERON BERTI ON OIL POLICY, PRICES

FL252055 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1959 GMT 25 Jun 81

[Text] Caracas, Venezuela, 25 Jun (NOTIMEX)--"It has been confirmed to me that Mexico, Venezuela's national friend, will maintain a common line with us in oil export prices, a decision that greatly satisfies the government and people of Venezuela." The statement was made by Venezuela's Energy and Mines Minister Humberto Calderon Berti, who added that Mexico had decided to join hands with Venezuela in matters related to oil prices.

On another subject, he said that world oil consumption is gradually being reduced due to energy savings and the development of other energy sources. He noted that compared to 1979, in 1980 the United States reduced its crude and refined oil imports by nearly 2 million barrels per day, and a further reduction is anticipated for 1981. Calderon Berti said that "according to OPEC statistics, the world used less oil in 1980 than had been anticipated, and that reduction amounted to 8 million barrels per day."

He further stated that OPEC's participation in the noncommunist oil market tends to diminish because countries such as Mexico, Norway and Great Britain, which are not members of OPEC, continue to increase their participation in the market. Finally, Calderon said that OPEC participates in 53 percent of the total noncommunist supply of crude oil in the world.